

REGIONAL EMERGENCY DISPATCH

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November 27, 2006

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: RM-11348

Subject: Cyren Call Communications Proposal

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing you on behalf of the Regional Emergency Dispatch Center (RED Center) and the fire departments that we serve. Our agencies serve 225,000 residents and respond to 28,000 emergency incidents each year. We are located in the north suburbs of Chicago.

In 1996, public safety identified the need for 97.5 MHz of additional spectrum to meet the communications needs over the next ten years. The largest amount of the spectrum was anticipated for uses with advanced wideband and broadband equipment. To date, the FCC has allocated only $24~\mathrm{MHz}$ of narrow band spectrum to public safety users in the $700~\mathrm{MHz}$ range.

RED Center strongly supports your recent recommendation to allocate 30 MHz of additional spectrum in the 700 MHz range. State and local government agencies need wide-area, mobile broadband communications capability and improved interoperability. Broadband networks should be built and maintained to meet public safety requirements, not just commercial needs. Congress and the FCC should take steps to ensure that 30 MHz of additional spectrum is reallocated and assigned to a public safety broadband trust for the benefit of public safety communications.

Sincerely,

James P. Clausen Executive Director